

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 (Currently amended). A method for determining the prognosis of an HIV infected individual, comprising:

measuring the levels of level of one or more prognostic marker(s) selected from the group consisting of anti-tat antibodies and anti tat antibodies in combination with p24 protein, in the serum of an HIV infected individual;

comparing the measured levels to a mean anti-tat antibody value and a mean p24 protein value level of the prognostic marker(s) with levels of the prognostic marker(s) indicative of disease progression or non progression; and

determining the prognosis of the HIV infected individual, wherein [[high]] anti-tat antibody levels alone or above the mean value in combination with [[low]] p24 protein levels below the mean value is indicative of disease non-progression, and [[low]] anti-tat antibody levels alone or below the mean value in combination with [[high]] p24 protein levels above the mean level is indicative of disease progression.

Claims 2 and 3 (Cancelled).

Appln. No. 09/763,369

Amd. dated September 23, 2004

Reply to Office Action of April 7, 2004

4 (Currently amended). A method for evaluating a treated HIV infected individual, comprising:

measuring ~~the level of anti-tat antibodies or the~~ levels of anti-tat antibodies and p24 protein in a treated HIV infected individual over time; and

determining whether ~~the level of anti-tat antibodies has decreased sufficiently or whether~~ the level of p24 protein has increased sufficiently while the level of anti-tat antibodies has decreased sufficiently to warrant further treatment of the HIV infected individual.

Claim 5 (Cancelled).